

VERMONT EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS

Guiding the Development and Learning of Children Entering Kindergarten

A companion guide to the

VERMONT FRAMEWORK OF STANDARDS AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

DOMAIN	LEARNING GOALS & DEFINITION	DOMAIN	LEARNING GOALS & DEFINITION	DOMAIN	LEARNING GOALS & DEFINITION	DOMAIN	LEARNING GOALS & DEFINITION
I. Approaches to Learning	<p>1. Play Children engage in play as a means to develop their individual approach to learning.</p> <p>2. Curiosity and Initiative Children demonstrate curiosity and a willingness to participate in tasks and challenges.</p> <p>3. Persistence Children demonstrate an increased ability to show initiative, accept help, take risks, and work towards completing tasks.</p> <p>4. Self-organization Children demonstrate an increased ability to establish goals, develop and follow through with plans.</p> <p>5. Reasoning Children demonstrate an increased ability to identify, evaluate and provide possible solutions to problems.</p> <p>6. Application Children use their prior experiences, senses, and knowledge to learn in new ways.</p>	II. Social and Emotional Development	<p>1. Play Children use play as a vehicle to build relationships and to develop an appreciation for their own abilities and accomplishments.</p> <p>2. Self Concept Children demonstrate and express a positive awareness of self and confidence in their capabilities.</p> <p>3. Self-Control Children increase their capacity for self-control and for dealing with frustrations, and increase their awareness of their own capabilities.</p> <p>4. Interactions with Others Children develop successful relationships with other members of their learning community.</p> <p>5. Sense of Community Children increasingly demonstrate a sense of belonging to the classroom/program, family and community.</p>	III. Language, Literacy, and Communication	<p>1. Play Children engage in play as a means to develop their receptive and expressive language skills. Children engage in play as a means to develop early reading and writing skills.</p> <p>2. Listening and Understanding Children develop skills in listening and in understanding language.</p> <p>3. Speaking and Communicating Children will use verbal and non-verbal language to express and to communicate information.</p> <p>4. Vocabulary Children will acquire and use new words to increase their understanding and express ideas.</p> <p>5. Early Writing Children demonstrate an interest in and ability to use symbols to represent words and ideas.</p>	6. Early Reading	<p>Children demonstrate an interest in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A. Phonemic and Phonological Awareness</i> Learning that language is comprised of distinct sounds and the combination of these sounds; discriminating sound and sound patterns. <i>B. Book Knowledge and Appreciation</i> Understanding and appreciating that books and other forms of print have a purpose. <i>C. Print Awareness and Concepts</i> Recognizing the association between spoken and written words by following print as it is read aloud. <i>D. Alphabet Knowledge</i> Recognizing that symbols are associated with letters of the alphabet and that they form words.
V. Science	<p>1. Play Children engage in play as a means to develop their scientific skills.</p> <p>2. Scientific Knowledge Children learn about the development of the natural and physical worlds, including: Space, Time and Matter; The Living World; The Human Body; The Universe, Earth, and Environment; and Technology.</p> <p>3. Scientific Skills and Methods Children begin to use scientific tools and methods to learn about their world, including design and technology.</p>	VI. Social Studies	<p>1. Play Children engage in play as a means to develop an understanding of social studies.</p> <p>2. Spaces and Geography Children will demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for their physical environment.</p> <p>3. People and How They Live Children demonstrate skills related to understanding, communication, sharing, cooperation, and participation with others in a community.</p> <p>4. People and Their Environment Children demonstrate an awareness of and appreciation for people's relationship to the environment.</p> <p>5. People and the Past Children demonstrate an understanding of past events and their connection to the present and future.</p>	VII. Creative Expression	<p>1. Play Children engage in play as a means of self expression and creativity.</p> <p>2. Creative Expression Children engage in individual or group activities that represent real-life experiences, ideas, knowledge, feelings and fantasy.</p> <p>3. Tools Children use a variety of tools and art media to creatively express their ideas.</p> <p>4. Appreciation of the Arts Children express interest in and begin to build a knowledge base in the arts.</p>	VIII. Physical Development and Health	<p>1. Play Children engage in play as a means to understand healthy behavior and develop their physical bodies.</p> <p>2. Gross Motor Children increasingly move their bodies in ways that demonstrate control, balance, and coordination.</p> <p>3. Fine Motor Children use their fingers and hands in ways that develop hand-eye coordination, strength, control, and object manipulation.</p> <p>4. Senses Children increase their understanding of the use of their eyes, ears, fingers, nose, and mouth, and how the senses work together.</p> <p>5. Healthy Habits Children begin to understand how daily activity and healthy behavior promote overall personal health and safety.</p>

